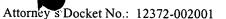
JUL 11 2003 &



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Aki Kitagawa et al.

Art Unit: 1623

Serial No.: 09/834,103

Examiner: Patrick T. Lewis

Filed

: April 12, 2001

Title

: SUSTAINED RELEASE DRUG COMPOSITIONS

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136, applicant hereby petitions that the period for response to the action dated January 8, 2003, be extended for three months to and including July 8, 2003.

Enclosed is a check for \$465 for the required fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

465.00 OP

Y Rocky Tsag

Fish & Richardson P.C. 225 Franklin Street Boston, MA 02110-2804 Telephone: (617) 542-5070

Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

Date of Deposit

Signature

CHERY/ A. CARON

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate